

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 08948 180941Z
ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 SIL-01 LAB-04
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P 180927Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8034
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, OVIP, JA
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH DEPUTY STR WOLFF

REF: TOKYO 8553

1. AS INDICATED IN SEPTEL, GENERAL SECRETARIES OF FOUR JAPANESE CONFEDERATIONS, VISITING U.S. MAY 25-JUNE 2 TO OBSERVE U.N. SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT AND TO MEET WITH AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY, NOW ANXIOUS TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT WITH HIGH-LEVEL USG OFFICIAL DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. PURPOSE OF APPOINTMENT WILL BE TO EXPLAIN JAPANESE LABOR UNION VIEWS ON BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES AND TO OBTAIN LATEST READING OF USG ATTITUDES TOWARDS JAPAN. WHILE GROUP WOULD PREFER APPOINTMENT DURING ITS BRIEF STAY IN WASHINGTON MAY 31-JUNE 2 (IT ALREADY HAS CONFIRMED APPOINTMENT WITH GEORGE MEANY ON JUNE 1 AT 11 A.M.), SOHYO SEC GEN TOMIZUKA HAS INDICATED THAT IF APPOINTMENT COULD BE ARRANGED WITH WOLFF IN PERIOD MAY 26-29 THEY WOULD MAKE DAY TRIP TO WASHINGTON TO KEEP APPOINTMENT.

2. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT WOLFF MEET WITH INFLUENTIAL LABOR GROUP. LABOR UNIONS HERE GRADUALLY AWAKENING TO
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NEED TO PRESS FOR LIBERALIZATION FOR IMPORTS, PARTICULARLY CONSUMER GOODS, AS WAY OF SECURING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR THEIR MEMBERS IN PERIOD OF LOW WAGE INCREASES. IF WOLFF MEETS WITH GROUP, HE SHOULD EXPECT THAT THEY WILL HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER MEETING WITH JAPANESE PRESS CORPS IN WASHINGTON TO RELAY SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATION AND OBTAIN SOME PUBLICITY BENEFITS FROM VISIT.

3. IF DECISION ON APPOINTMENT IS NOT MADE BEFORE TOMI-
ZUKA'S DEPARTURE FROM JAPAN MAY 23, JAPANESE LABOR DELEGA-
TION CAN BE REACHED IN NEW YORK THROUGH USUN (PETREE).
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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